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THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC NATIONS OF THE WORLD

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A FLAG FOR THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC NATIONS OF THE WORLD

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THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC NATIONS OF THE WORLD

To be organized to establish and maintain the peace of the world.

By Allen Ripley Foote

Published by
AMERICAN PROGRESS
OFFICE, 63 HOME LIFE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C.
1917

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THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC NATIONS OF THE WORLD

To be organized to establish and maintain the peace of the world.

By Allen Ripley Foote

The peace of the world must be founded upon God's Law of Peace and Justice as declared by the Prince of Peace:

"*Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them; for this is the law and the prophets.*" (Matthew, 7:12.)

Christ condemned the invaders of nations, and the pillagers of their people, in the following judicial opinion which affirms the Brotherhood of Man and the Fatherhood of God: "*Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.*" (Matthew, 25:40.)

The German Government had power to destroy

its treaty of peace with Belgium, treating it as of no more value than a scrap of paper, but it has no power to nullify the law of God, for disobeying which it stands condemned before the bar of human intelligence and in the presence of God.

The duty of nations to honor and obey the moral law was declared by the Father of American Democracy, Thomas Jefferson, when, in his inaugural address, 1804, he said:

"*We are firmly convinced, and we act on that conviction, that with nations, as with individuals, our interests soundly calculated will ever be found inseparable from our moral duties, and that the code of honor and justice for individuals and for nations must be identical.*"

Those who believe in justice are willing to unite in working and fighting to establish and maintain justice. They know that a power which defies the Laws of God and Man and violates the rights of a single nation will violate the rights of all nations unless it is compelled by superior force to recognize and obey the moral law. They know that the only enduring peace will be a peace born of righteousness, founded on the principles of justice and guaranteed by the United Democratic Nations of the world.

A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES[1]

When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for Democratic Nations to unite, to establish and maintain the peace of the world, and they undertake to place limitations upon the power of autocratic governments to invade and pillage other nations and their people and to deprive them of their inalienable right to the freedom of the seas, and to all natural straits and channels by which seas are connected, a decent respect for the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to take such action.

The Democratic Nations of the world in uniting to establish and maintain the peace of the world hold these truths to be self-evident:

1. That all men and all nations are equal before the law of God.

2. That they are endowed with certain inalienable rights among which are the right to life, liberty and the orderly pursuit of happiness.

To secure these rights, for all men and for all nations, *a Union of the Democratic Nations of the*

[1] NOTE.—In writing this Declaration of Principles the wording and style of the American Declaration of Independence, issued to the world in 1776, have been followed.

world is hereby instituted, deriving its just powers from the consent of the nations comprising this Union, laying its foundations on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form as to them shall seem most likely to secure safety and happiness for themselves and for their people, insure their moral and economic development, and enable them to make true progress "in the direction of growth of justice; justice between man and man; justice between employer and employee; justice within the law; justice displayed in the honesty and ability of courts; justice of the state towards its citizens; justice of nation to nation."[2]

Prudence, indeed, will indicate that the powers of free Democratic Nations long established should not be united for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shown that mankind is more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by forming governments for mutual protection. But, when a long train of abuses and usurpations, practiced by autocratic governments pursuing invariably the

[2] NOTE.—Theodore Marburg. World Court and League of Peace. Publications of the American Society for Judicial Settlement of International Disputes. No. 20, February, 1915.

same object by making war to establish and maintain their jurisdiction over other nations and their people by force, evidences a design to hold the people of the nations they invade under an absolute despotism, it is the right, it is the *duty* of all free Democratic Nations to unite to restrain the power of autocratic governments shown to be guilty of such abuses of their power, and to provide efficient and self-perpetuating safeguards against future violations of the peace of the world.

Such has been the patient sufferance of free Democratic Nations, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to form a union by means of which they can restrain the irresponsible power of autocratic governments which has been used in all ages to establish and maintain their jurisdiction by the use of force; which has developed and perpetuated a spirit of national, racial and religious hatred in opposition to the spirit of the brotherhood of man; and which has invariably deified the crime of murder and crucified the spirit of love.

The history of all warring autocratic nations is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having, in direct object, the establishment of an absolute tyranny over other nations and their subjects.

We, therefore, being free Democratic Nations, in the act of creating this Union to establish and maintain the peace of the world, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do in the name and by the authority of our sovereign governments solemnly publish and declare:

First. That the rights of nations, and of their people, to a free and orderly development of their moral and economic well-being; to freedom to pursue their own social and industrial improvement within the boundaries of their own country, in their own way; and to a free and unabridged use of the high seas, and to all natural straits and channels by which seas are connected, are inalienable.

Second. That the maintenance of an armed force capable of invading another nation must be eliminated from the powers and purposes of government to make it certain that all nations shall be relieved from the exhausting necessity of maintaining the means of protecting themselves against invasions, and that humanity may be relieved from the horrors of destruction and pillage and never again be crucified by the slaughter of wars of invasion.

Third. That it is a fundamental requirement for

the establishment and maintenance of an effective Union of Democratic Nations, that no member nation shall declare a separate war or conclude a separate peace.

Fourth. That this Union shall have power to enforce its decrees and to secure collective responsibility for the maintenance and enforcement of international laws which correctly express the judgment of its collective international mind.

Fifth. That the might of all shall defend the rights of each; that the power of the strong shall be a defense for the weak.

Sixth. That the power to declare war and to levy taxes therefor shall be the exclusive prerogative of representative assemblies the members of which are elected by the citizens of the nation, exercising a free right of equal universal suffrage, who are to be required to sacrifice their lives and property in sustaining the cause of armed conflict.

Seventh. As free and sovereign Democratic Nations, we hereby reserve to the people of our countries, acting through their duly elected and authorized representatives, the unrestricted right to exercise all powers not herein specifically delegated to the United Democratic Nations of the World.

Believing that we correctly express the aspirations of the soul of the people in all nations, we hereby unite for the support of the foregoing declarations, and cordially invite all nations whose democratic form of government renders them eligible to membership in this Union, to join with us for the purpose of establishing and maintaining the peace of the world.

With a firm reliance upon the protection and guidance of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor and declare that no nation herein represented shall withhold an ounce of its strength from the task of relieving the nations of the world from the perpetual menace of invasion, by the creation of a world police force that can and will compel would-be invading nations to respect the territorial rights of all nations great or small.

THE SPIRIT OF A DEMOCRATIC DECLARATION OF WAR

President Woodrow Wilson, in his address to the Congress of the United States, delivered at Washington, April 2, 1917, gave a true voice to the spirit of democracy when he said:

* * * * * *

"With the profound sense of the solemn and

even tragical character of the step I am taking and of the grave responsibilities which it involves, but in unhesitating obedience to what I deem my constitutional duty, I advise that the Congress declare the recent course of the Imperial German Government to be in fact nothing less than war against the Government and people of the United States; that it formally accept the status of belligerent which has thus been thrust upon it; and that it take immediate steps not only to put the country in a more thorough state of defense but also to exert all its power and employ all its resources to bring the Government of the German Empire to terms and end the war.

* * * * * *

"While we do these things, these deeply momentous things, let us be very clear, and make very clear to all the world what our motives and objects are . . . . to vindicate the principles of peace and justice in the life of the world as against selfish and autocratic power, and to set up among the really free and self-governed people of the world such a concert of purpose and of action as will henceforth insure the observance of those principles.

". . . . . We are at the beginning of an age in which it will be insisted that the same standards of conduct and of responsibility for wrong done shall be observed among nations and their governments that are observed among the individual citizens of civilized states.

"A steadfast concert for peace can never be maintained except by a partnership of democratic nations. No autocratic government could be trusted to keep faith within it or observe its covenants. It must be a league of honor, a partnership of opinion. Intrigue would eat its vitals away; the plottings of inner circles who could plan what they would and render account to no one would be a corruption seated at its very heart. Only free people can hold their purpose and their honor steady to a common end and prefer the interests of mankind to any narrow interest of their own.

* * * * * *

"We know that in such a Government (the Imperial German Government), ... we can never have a friend; and that in the presence of its organized power, always lying in wait to accomplish we know not what purpose, there can be no

assured security for the democratic governments of the world. We are now about to accept the gage of battle with this natural foe of liberty, and shall, if necessary, spend the whole force of the nation to check and nullify its pretentions and power. We are glad, now that we see the facts with no veil of false pretense about them, to fight thus for the ultimate peace of the world and for the liberation of its peoples, the German peoples included: for the rights of nations, great and small, and the privilege of men everywhere to choose their way of life and of obedience.

"The world must be made safe for democracy. Its peace must be planted upon the tested foundations of political liberty. We have no selfish ends to serve. We desire no conquest, no dominion, we seek no indemnities for ourselves, no material compensation for the sacrifices we shall freely make. We are but one of the champions of the rights of mankind. We shall be satisfied when these rights have been made as secure as the faith and the freedom of nations can make them.

"Just because we fight without rancor and without sefish object, seeking nothing for ourselves but what we shall wish to share with all free peoples, we shall, I feel confident, conduct our operations

as belligerents without passion and ourselves observe with proud punctilio the principles of right and of fair play we profess to be fighting for.

* * * * * *

"It will be easier for us to conduct ourselves as belligerents in a high spirit of right and fairness because we act without animus, not with enmity toward a people or with the desire to bring any injury or disadvantage upon them but only in armed opposition to an irresponsible government which has thrown aside all considerations of humanity and of right and is running amuck.

"We are . . . . the sincere friends of the German people, and shall desire nothing so much as the early re-establishment of intimate relations of mutual advantage between us, however hard it may be for them for the time being to believe that this is spoken from our hearts. We have borne with their present Government through all these bitter months because of this friendship, exercising a patience and forbearance which would otherwise have been impossible.

* * * * * *

"It is a distressing and an oppressive duty, gentlemen of the Congress, which I have performed in

thus addressing you. There are, it may be, many months of fiery trial and sacrifice ahead of us. It is a fearful thing to lead this great, peaceful people into war, into the most terrible and disastrous of all wars, civilization itself seeming to be in the balance.

"But the right is more precious than peace, and we shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest our hearts—for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments, for the rights and liberties of small nations, for a universal dominion of right by such a concert of free peoples as shall bring peace and safety to all nations and make the world itself at last free.

"To such a task we can dedicate our lives and our fortunes, everything that we are and everything that we have, with the pride of those who know that the day has come when America is privileged to spend her blood and her might for the principles that gave her birth and happiness and the peace which she has treasured.

"God helping her, she can do no other."

UNITED DEMOCRACY THE HOPE OF THE WORLD

It is the hope of the world that all democratic governments will at once qualify themselves to

become members of the United Democratic Nations of the World by at once declaring war, in the spirit of this democratic declaration, against all autocratic governments now engaged in invading other nations.

The first action of this democratic Union should be the issuing of a proclamation declaring to the people of all invading governments that the purpose of all nations composing this Union is to suppress the lawless acts of their governments in invading and pillaging neighboring nations, and in depriving other nations of their right to the free and unmolested navigation of the high seas, and to all natural straits and channels by which seas are connected, and stating the terms upon which negotiations for concluding a separate or a collective peace may be undertaken.

The people of invading nations must be made to understand that no nation with which their government is at war has any purpose of invasion, conquest or pillage regarding them, therefore, that they are not engaged in a war of self-defense for their "Fatherland" but under that plea have been led into a war of invasion and pillage more cruel and unjust than any war ever undertaken by any people classed as intelligent and civilized.

The most effective way in which to cause the people of the invading nations to realize the truth regarding the war in which their governments are engaged is to notify them by a proclamation issued by the United Democratic Nations of the World, declaring the terms which they will enforce as a basis for an enduring peace, as follows:

First. That terms of peace will not be discussed with any nation, or with any group of nations, so long as a single one of its soldiers is an invader upon the soil of any other nation.

Second. That the United Democratic Nations of the World pledge themselves not to invade the territory of any nation that recalls its soldiers within the borders of its own territory and there disarms and disbands its armies mobilized and employed for the purpose of invading the territory of any other nation.

Third. That no nation, being a member of the United Democratic Nations of the World, whose territory or rights upon land or the high seas has been invaded will enforce the payment of an indemnity by the invading nation to reimburse it for expenses incurred by reason of the necessity thus forced upon it of driving such invader from

its soil or compelling such nation to observe its rights on the high seas, *providing* such invader shall withdraw its soldiers within the boundaries of its own territory and cause its interference with the rights of other nations upon the high seas to cease within thirty days after the promulgation of such proclamation.

Fourth. That the government of every nation guilty of using its armed force for the purposes of invasion and pillage will be required to restore all property it has destroyed on land or the high seas, and that this restoration shall be in kind as far as practicable. To this end such nations will be required to dismantle all plants used for the manufacture of the implements and munitions of war and re-equip them for the manufacture of agricultural implements, machinery for producing commodities of commerce, structural iron for rebuilding bridges and buildings, and equipment for railroads, and to re-equip and re-organize its shipyards for the building of ships with which it can replace the ships it has destroyed, being the property of other nations or of their citizens.

Fifth. To provide metal and other material required for this work of restoration, each invading nation will be required to collect all machinery

used for manufacturing implements and munitions of war, and all such implements and munitions, at manufacturing plants equipped to put them into a melting pot and to use the resultant metal and other material in the manufacture of implements of peace to be delivered, without cost, to the people of the invaded nations to replace similar property destroyed or appropriated by soldiers and others, acting under the orders of, or with the connivance of the invading nation.

Sixth. On behalf of this work of restoration, to compensate for the destruction wrought, each invading nation will be required to build and deliver, without cost, to the owner of every ship, or water craft of any kind destroyed by it, ship for ship, of equal capacity, equipment and speed.

Seventh. Every invading nation that has caused the death or injury of an unarmed citizen of another nation by its military or naval operations will be required to pay an adequate indemnity to the relatives of the murdered person, or to the person injured, recognizing the fact that an economic loss can be restored but human life is not thereby placed on sale to be bought and paid for by its destroyers.

Eighth. Every invading nation will be required

to pay the money value of all amounts it has collected from persons, or from their municipal governments by forced taxation, or otherwise, and of all supplies requisitioned by its soldiers for their own use or for the use of their government.

RESTORATION IS NOT INDEMNIFICATION

These suggestions are indicative of the requirements of justice. They are not complete nor exhaustive. They are written to show the people of invading nation that restoration is not indemnification for the costs of war imposed upon invaded nations, and that the longer the invader persists in his work of destruction the heavier will be his task of restoration. A burglar is not punished by being compelled to restore the goods he has stolen.

A JUST AND A DURABLE PEACE GUARANTEED

When hostilities cease the Council of War of the United Democratic Nations will be transformed into a Council of Peace. It will be the duty of this council to formulate the terms of peace and to require compliance therewith by each invading nation.

These terms may be as follows:

First. After the boundaries of nations have been

corrected as required by the terms of peace no change in a national boundary shall be made excepting as the result of peaceful negotiation approved by the Union of Democratic Nations.

Second. Any nation ordering an invasion of the territory of another nation, or interfering in any way with its rights on the high seas and all natural straits and channels by which seas are connected, shall at once be declared an outlaw among nations and all intercourse with such nation on the part of nations composing the Union of Democratic Nations shall at once cease and shall not be resumed until such nation shall have ceased its lawless acts and given security for its future good behavior.

Third. The manufacture by any nation of implements and munitions of war for use on land, on the high seas or in the air in excess of its requirements for efficient police duty within its own territory shall be deemed an act of war and shall be punished by an immediate severance of all diplomatic and commercial relations with it by every government represented in the Union of the Democratic Nations of the World.

These provisions, properly stated and strictly enforced, will banish war from the face of the earth.

To the accomplishment of this purpose all the forces of the universe that work together for good stand pledged.

A FLAG FOR THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC NATIONS OF THE WORLD

Created to establish and maintain the Peace of the World, the flag of the United Democratic Nations of the World will be a banner, in the upper left corner of which there will be displayed a radiating sun in a sky-blue field having inscribed within its circle the declaration: *Universal Good Will.* The body of this banner will be striped with all the prismatic colors of the rainbow—"*The Bow of Promise.*"

Can any civilized man, can any civilized nation refuse to be a defender of this flag and to defend it to his last drop of blood, to its last ounce of power? Can any civilized man, can any civilized nation fire upon this flag and make war upon its defenders and remain civilized?

UNIVERSAL GOOD WILL

When peace is established, the need of promoting good will among men and nations will appear. In this work all who conscientiously desire to have

the Will of God done on earth as it is done in heaven must themselves respond to the duty of doing as they would be done by in every action, thought and desire of their hearts.

Abraham Lincoln formulated the creed of peace when, looking forward to the close of our Civil War, he uttered these immortal words:

"*With malice towards none, with charity for all, let us strive to do the right as God has given it to us to see the right, that a government of the people by the people for the people shall not perish.*"

The gains of life are various. Some objects we pursue disappear as we grasp them. We are but children, chasing with excited delight beautiful bubbles floating free in air. We touch them and they vanish. Some objects are as enduring as the eternal truth of God. We pursue them with the stern courage of men upborne by the strength of a moral conviction. Though, in the hour of trial and triumph, a crown of thorns be pressed upon our brow, the memory of a right act, courageously done, will enrich the soul forever.

In the crucible of conflict men become molten. Their blood mingles. Their souls blend. Their lives are fused into the life of their Nation.

On battlefields where sons of democratic nations

unite to establish and maintain the Peace of the World and shed their blood, a spirit of world comradeship will be born that shall live through all the ages and will be a masterful guarantor of the peace of the world.

FRIENDS RESURRECTED FROM ENEMIES' GRAVES

In taking security for the future against the horrible inhumanity and destruction of another war; in entering upon the work of restoration of physical things; in raising the *Flag of Democracy* over the battlefields of Europe and the high seas, the United Democratic Nations of the World have opportunity to cause all combatants to learn the lesson that should have been taught by every conflict that has been waged between man and man.

This is the lesson:

No cause is ever completely won until a friend is resurrected from the grave of an enemy; no cause is ever completely lost when from the grave of an enemy a friend is resurrected.

A prophecy that the American people would learn this lesson was uttered when, in 1865, Ulysses S. Grant clasped the hand of Robert E. Lee and said: *Let us have peace.*

The fact that the American people have learned

this lesson was certified—"When William McKinley, a Union soldier (and afterward President of the United States), wearing a decorative Confederate flag, marched in triumph through the streets of Atlanta (Georgia) ringing with the cheers of the people." It was attested—"When William Howard Taft named a Confederate soldier for Chief Justice of the United States 'by and with the advice and consent of the Senate' of the United States, and the universal approval of the people of the Northern States."[3]

The fact that the American people have learned this lesson was visualized when, in 1895—thirty years after Grant and Lee grasped each others hands—the Grand Army of the Republic, composed entirely of men who had served in the ranks of the Union Army, held its first national encampment upon Southern soil, at Louisville, Ky., upon an invitation extended through a Confederate soldier.

"Never (before) had there been such a fusion of kindred sentiment; such an outpouring of brotherhood; such eager, spontaneous outbursts of song. . . . . The walls of the city, the hearts of the

[3] Editorial: The *Courier-Journal*, Louisville, Ky., April 18, 1917.

people were clad in red, white and blue. From Maine to Texas the cry went up in praise and thanks to God—'The War of Sections is over.' "[3]

The fact that the American people have learned this lesson was proven when the stress of a foreign war came. "It was thought and said, if there should come a foreign war, the proof that the War of Sections is over will even more vividly and impressively show itself. And the foreign war did come. It was at hand. Its earliest victim chanced to be a Southern lad. With Wheeler, Fitz Lee and Wilson—the self-same Wilson who had captured Jefferson Davis—mated in Cuba, with Miles and Castleman in Puerto Rico, what more was wanted?

". . . . The glory, the name and the fame of the soldiers who wore the blue and the soldiers who wore the gray has become interchangeable. Forever now they constitute a great national asset, dear to every American who loves his country and is true to its institutions, for the nation is at length as it was intended by the fathers to be and as it was thought to be until stress and trial revealed the shortcoming and welded it together as never before."[3]

The fact that the American people have learned

this lesson was glorified when, in June, 1917, upon the invitation of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Confederate Veterans' Association held its reunion in the National Capital.

"Even as the heroes of the Grand Army of the Republic were welcomed to Louisville the heroes of the Confederate Veterans' Association were welcomed in Washington.

". . . . A sublimer sight than the Stars and Bars intertwined with the Stars and Stripes in everlasting fraternity never irradiated the summer air than was seen when those grizzled veterans of the South in their faded uniforms marched through Pennsylvania Avenue, whilst Massachusetts and South Carolina—New England and the Middle West—the States of the Atlantic and the States of the Pacific, 'in Congress assembled,' stood heart to heart, hand to hand, shoulder to shoulder in spiritual embrace, the world looking on exalted and rejoiced, the God of the Universe through the hosts of the Lord and Gideon proclaiming life to Democracy, death to Autocracy, the throng in London and in Paris and in Rome (in Petrograd, Pekin and Tokio) equally with the throng in Washington joining the hallelujah."[3]

What better evidence than this can be required to prove that, when the sons of the United Democratic Nations of the World unite on the battlefields of Europe to establish and maintain the Peace of the World, their blood will mingle, their souls will blend, their lives will be fused into the life of their Nations and a Spirit of World Comradeship will be born that shall live through all the ages a masterful guarantor of the Peace of the World?

Our eyes are beholding another resurrection of friends from the graves of enemies, of world-wide, prophetic significance. We now see friends arising from the graves of foes who fought on the battlefields of the war for American Independence, from 1776 to 1784. We now behold the British Union Jack, the French Tri-Color and the Stars and Stripes unfurled alongside each other and floating free in the breeze over the House of Parliament in London, the Eiffel Tower in Paris and Independence Hall in Philadelphia, while the President and people of the United States entertain War Commissions from the Entente Nations of Europe to devise ways and means "to make the world safe for Democracy."

Aye, all who have "eyes to see and ears to hear"

can now see the might of right shining forth, can now hear the rumbling of the stone of autocratic power as it is hurled away from the sepulcher of freedom to liberate mankind from the perpetual menace of invasion by the armies of Autocratic Governments.

While the Entente Nations of Europe are teaching the American Republic how to make war it will be the everlasting glory of American Democracy to teach the Powers of Europe how to make and maintain Peace.

By causing a resurrection of friends from the graves of enemies, with which the battlefields of Europe and the depths of the high seas are now being strewn, the United Democratic Nations of the World will accomplish the purpose of God now to establish and maintain the Peace of the World.

To the accomplishment of such a purpose an overruling Providence that has caused events to lead humanity from savagery to civilization, from slavery to freedom, from ignorance to wisdom from autocracy to democracy, stands pledged.

The purpose of true statesmen and the purpose of God is identical—the developing and safeguarding of the common good, and the happiness of the people.

Behold the coming of the day when the United Democratic Nations of the World organized to work or to fight together under the Flag of Democracy, *shall proclaim an Era of Universal Good Will and guarantee the Peace of the World.*

On that day the Ruler of the Universe "*shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nations shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.*" (Isaiah, 2:4.)

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